



Van Der Bosch Auto Repair introduces a method to protect against auto theft

On Friday afternoon, November 3, police officer Gustavo Semeleer along with Franklin Krosendijk of v/d Bosh Auto Repair demonstrated the latest technology in the prevention of auto theft, "Glass Etching."

The process of glass etching is neither particularly new nor unique, as it has been used for monogrammed glass giftware and glass design for decades, but now it is being applied to auto protection against theft, and proving to be quick, simple, and inexpensive.

The garage of the government car inspection station (DTI) was filled with interested parties, including the Minister of Justice, Rudy Croes, who heartily endorses this procedure, along with the Director of the inspection station, Marshall Vinck. This procedure will not only protect against theft, but also facilitate in the identification of an auto and the inspection process.

Officer Semeleer performed a glass etching on a pickup truck, and embossed the VIM number on six of the windows, the minimum procedure for etching that costs only 125 Aruban florins. This costs far less than expensive burglar alarms, but allows the police to trace and recover the vehicle if it is stolen, and discourages theft because of the exorbitant cost of replacing the windows, making it unprofitable to resell. Long in use in the United States, glass etching is showing marked results in preventing auto theft. For example:

- The Auto Club of Michigan (AAA) etched approximately 35,000 vehicles and reduced the theft rate by 99%
- National Car Rental system etched 2,500 trucks and reduced the rate by 96%
- Kentucky State Police etched 50,000 vehicles and reduced theft by 98%
- Warwick Rhode Island police reduced the rate on 8,000 autos by 99%
- The Hanover Insurance Company three year study on 7,600 cars with etching showed a 64% drop in theft and a recovery rate of 85%, versus 33% before etching.

In a study performed over three years by the Kentucky State Police using 125,000 vehicles, only three etched vehicles were stolen; two were recovered on the same day, undamaged. The net loss in the study was only one car, when previous records would project a loss of 800.

Franklin Krosendijk revealed that v/d Bosch Car Repair has approached local insurance companies about working with them on a program to have as many vehicles on Aruba etched as possible. Car theft is a problem everywhere in the world, but it is a proven fact that thieves will not steal a car if it is not profitable; this affordable thirty-minute procedure could easily guarantee against it, or if taken, a quick recovery.

For more information about this procedure, and to schedule an appointment, contact v/d Bosch Car Repair in Balashi at telephone #585-4055.